

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application.

### Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method of providing forward error correction (FEC) to a data frame, the method comprising the steps of:

packetizing the data frame into a plurality of frame packets, each frame packet having packet data defined by at least a first data portion and a second data portion;

selecting only said first data portions of packet data from each of the a plurality of frame packets for forward error correction exclusive of said second data portions; [[,]] said selected portions being less than an entirety of a corresponding frame packet;

simultaneously concatenating only the said selected first data portions of said packet data from each of the plurality of frame packets into a concatenated bit field;

generating a forward error correction code for the concatenated bit field of said first data portions; and

packetizing said forward error correction code to form a forward error correction code packet; and

transmitting ~~separately a packet containing the said~~ forward error correction code ~~and packet separately from~~ the plurality of frame packets, each of said transmitted frame packets including said first data portion and said second data portion, the packet containing the forward error correction code packet being identified with a user data identifier code.

Claim 2 (Currently amended): The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the transmission of the forward error correction code ~~in the separate~~ packet is MPEG-4 compliant.

Claim 3 (Previously presented): The method as recited in claim 1, further including the step of transmitting the plurality of frame packets temporally prior to the separate forward error correction code packet transmitting step.

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the forward error correction code generating step includes the step of generating the forward error correction code as a Bose-Chaudhuri-Hocquenghem (BCH) code.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the forward error correction code generating step includes the step of generating the forward error correction code as a systematic code.

Claim 6 (Previously presented): The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the packetizing step includes the step of separating the packet data into at least portions respectively and separately containing motion vector data and Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) data.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): The method as recited in claim 6, wherein the packet data selecting step includes the step of selecting as the ~~selected~~ first data portions of packet data only header data, the motion vector data and one of either a subset of the Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) data or none of the Discrete Cosine Transform data.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the packet data selecting step includes the step of selecting as the ~~selected~~ first data portions of packet data only packet data located between a resync field and a motion marker.

Claim 9 (Previously presented): The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

setting a flag indicating that a fixed Video Object Plane (VOP) increment is to set a fixed interval between each of the plurality of frame packets; and

assigning a fixed increment value to the fixed Video Object Plane increment.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of transmitting in the separate forward error correction code packet a value indicating a quantity of bits concatenated from ~~within at least a first packet of~~ the plurality of frame packets for which the forward error correction code is generated.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): An error correction generating circuit, comprising:

a processor coupled to a processor readable memory;  
a first instruction sequence stored in the processor memory and operable to cause the processor to select portions only a first data portion of packet data from each of a plurality of frame packets of a corresponding packetized data frame, ~~each said selected portions being less than an entirety of a corresponding frame packet~~ having at least said first data portion and a second data portion;

a second instruction sequence stored in the processor readable memory and operable to cause the processor to simultaneously concatenate only the selected first data portions of packet data into a concatenated bit field;

a third instruction sequence stored in the processor readable memory and operable to cause the processor to generate forward error correction data for the concatenated bit field of said first data portions exclusive of said second data portions;

a fourth instruction sequence stored in the processor readable memory and operable to cause the processor to form a forward error correction packet and store the forward error correction data therein in a packet, said forward error correction packet being separate from the plurality of frame packets; and

a fifth instruction sequence stored in the processor readable memory and operable to cause the processor to identify the separate forward error correction packet with a data identifier code.

Claim 12 (Cancelled).

Claim 13 (Previously presented): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, further comprising a sixth instruction sequence stored in the processor readable memory and operable to cause the processor to set a flag indicating that a fixed Video Object Plane (VOP) increment is to set a fixed interval between each of the plurality of frame packets and to assign a fixed increment value thereto.

Claim 14 (Previously presented): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, further comprising a sixth instruction sequence stored in the processor readable memory and operable to cause the processor to provide a Header Extension Code (HEC) in every packet in a first sequence of packets.

Claim 15 (Previously presented): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, wherein the error correction generation circuit is incorporated on an integrated circuit.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, wherein the separate forward error correction packet is MPEG-4 compliant.

Claim 17 (Previously presented): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, wherein the forward error correction data is generated using a Bose-Chaudhuri-Hocquenghem (BCH) code.

Claim 18 (Previously presented): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, wherein the forward error correction data is generated using a systematic code.

Claim 19 (Previously presented): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, wherein the packet data is separated into at least portions respectively and separately containing motion vector data and Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) data.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 19, wherein the selected first data portions of packet data includes only header data, the motion vector data and one of either a subset of the Discrete Cosine Transform (DCT) data or none of the Discrete Cosine Transform data.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The error correction generation circuit as recited in claim 11, wherein the selected first data portions of packet data is only the packet data located between a resync field and a motion marker.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): An encoder circuit, comprising:  
means for generating forward error correction data for a concatenated bit field formed simultaneously from only selected first data portions exclusive of second data portions of packet data from each of a plurality of frame packets, where ~~the selected portions are less than an entirety of the corresponding each~~ frame packet has at least said first data portion and said second data portion;

means for forming a forward error correction packet and storing the forward error correction data therein, said forward error correction in a packet being separate from the plurality of frame packets; and

means for identifying the separate forward error correction packet with an a user data identifier code.

Claim 23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Currently amended): The encoder as recited in claim 22, further comprising means for transmitting in the separate forward error correction packet at least a value indicating a quantity of bits concatenated from within at least a ~~first packet of~~ the plurality of frame packets for which forward error correction data was generated.